

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 and 19-23 were pending. By this Amendment, claims 1-10, 11, 12, 13, 20, and 23 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-13 and 19-23 are pending.

The Examiner stated in the December 30, 2004 Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment that the reply filed on October 29, 2004 was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because the claims listed in the October 29, 2004 amendment were different than the amendment filed April 30, 2004. Specifically, the Examiner mentioned claims 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 20, and 23.

In response, applicants have amended the claims based on the claims which were previously made of record prior to the October 29, 2004 Amendment.

Applicants assert that the mistakes were unintentional and apologize for any inconvenience. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw these objections.

CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEES

Please charge any further insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully Submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (703) 872-9306 on January 12, 2005.

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